

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim to foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d), and for confirming that the certified copy of the priority document has been received at the Patent Office.

Specification:

Applicant has amended the Specification (as shown in the attached Appendix) to address the Examiner's objection to claim 6. The Examiner has indicated that there was no reference to a guide in the specification. Therefore, Applicant has amended the specification as shown in the attached Appendix to clarify the discussion of the present invention with respect to the guide.

Applicant also submits that this amendment does not add new matter, as the above subject matter is found in originally filed claim 6.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that although claim 2 is objected to, it would be allowable if written in independent form.

Claim Rejections:

Claims 1-11 are all of the claims pending in the present application, and currently claims 1 and 3-11 stand rejected.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejection - Claims 1 and 3-11:

Claims 1 and 3-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by the newly applied U.S. Patent No. 4,954,088 to Fujizaki et al.

Applicant has respectfully amended both claims 1 and 5, as shown in the attached Appendix, to incorporate the limitation of claim 2 into these claims. Because the Examiner has

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 09/673,614

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indicated that the subject matter recited in claim 2 is allowable, Applicant respectfully submits that the remaining claims 1 and 3-11 are also allowable.

Conclusion:

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,


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APPENDIX
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification is changed as follows:

On page 8, please amend the first paragraph, continuing from page 7, with the following correction:

As shown in Figure 1, the spring contact 7 is retained in the housing 4 of the body 1 by retaining means which include lugs 28 holding the portion 17 pressed against a rim 29 of the first entry 5. The lugs 28 are drops of plastics material melted onto the spring contact 7 after it is positioned in the housing 4, for example. The spring contact 7 is inserted into the body 1 via the first entry 5 on the first face 4. The size of the first entry 5 is such that it allows all of the spring contact 7 to pass through it. In contrast, the second entry 6 allows only the second branch 12 of the spring contact 7 to pass through it. The branch 11 is retained in the first entry 5 by the wall 4.1, which also serves as a guide for guiding the spring contact 7 into position within the housing 4. The housing 4 therefore includes a hole leading from the first entry 5 to the second entry 6 whose cross-section is restricted to the size of the aperture of the second entry 6. When an object, for example a battery, is pressed against the second face 3 of the body 1, and therefore against the branch 12 of the spring contacts 7, the branch 12 is depressed, the height 26 is reduced and the portion 22 is depressed into the housing 4. In one example, the maximum travel of the branch 12 is 1.5 mm. The object pressed against the second face 3 must exert a force lying in the range 0.5 newtons (N) to 1.5 N to depress the branch 12 into its housing 4.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 2 is canceled.

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) A connector, comprising:

a spring contact, wherein said spring contact is substantially U-shaped and has first and second branches and a base joining said first and second branches at one end for forming said U-shape, and wherein each of said first and second branches make electrical contact with a device, characterized in that said first and second branches lie in two diverging planes and the intersection of said two planes is within the base of the U-shape, and

wherein one of said first and second branches and the base are coplanar.

5. (Four Times Amended) An electrical connector, comprising:

a first face,

a second face opposite the first face, and

at least one housing for receiving a spring contact and opening onto both of said first and second faces,

wherein said spring contact is substantially U-shaped and has first and second branches and a base joining said first and second branches at one end for forming said U-shape, each of said first and second branches make electrical contact with a device, characterized in that said first and second branches lie in two diverging planes and the

intersection of said two planes is within the base of the U-shape, and one of said first and second branches and the base are coplanar; and

wherein the spring contact is positioned in the housing so that the plane containing the base of the U-shape is substantially parallel to respective planes of the faces of the connector.